

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR



AYRIS SCALES
INTERIM DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2011

Media Contact: Marquis Perkins
(202) 251-1971

DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES INTERIM DIRECTOR, AYRIS SCALES ANNOUNCES STREAMLINED FY 2012 GRANTS PROGRAMS

FY 2012 grants total \$3.9 million to support District artists and organizations

Washington, DC - On Tuesday, Interim Director, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Ayris Scales announced over \$3.9 million DCCA will be funding for Washington, DC non-profit organizations and artists through nine different grant programs. The grant program structure has also been streamlined, from sixteen to nine grant programs.

"The District's creative sector continues to grow and play a vital role in, not only the creative economy, but the overall well-being of the city's economy. The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities takes pride in being a facilitator in the growth of our city from an artistic perspective. This year we are streamlining our grant program structure, and by doing so, we are encouraging higher levels of creativity and fostering stronger applications, which means stronger arts programs for the residents of our city to enjoy" says Interim Director Scales.

The new grant program structure was determined after an internal review of the past several grant cycles. The current number of grant programs offered is aligned with national trends in number of grant programs offered.

The Commission also announced a new online application process, administered by ZoomGrants. The new system allows applicants to submit work samples online with their application - eliminating the need to produce physical applications and work samples. The Commission will also be able to source and store data with ZoomGrants.

Applicants with questions about the new system are encouraged to visit the arts agency's weekly workshops, which are posted online at dcarts.dc.gov.

GRANT PROGRAMS FOR FY 2012

Arts Education Programs (organizations and individuals): Maximum request, \$30,000 (organizations), \$5000 (individuals)

Funding supports programs and activities implemented during the school day, on- or off-site, as well as in after-school and summer programs.

Community Arts Grants (organizations and individuals): Maximum request, \$10,000

Supports small-scale projects to promote vibrant arts and humanities activities that engage the diverse communities of Washington, DC. CIG supports small projects with a total budget under \$60,000.

East of the River (organizations): Maximum request, \$25,000

Support for arts presentations and programs that directly benefit residents living east of the Anacostia River. Funding may include direct support for staff implementing activities.

Festivals and City Arts Projects (organizations): Maximum request, \$50,000

Promotes large-scale arts and humanities activities that engage the diverse communities of Washington, DC. Funding is distributed in two categories: Festivals and City Arts Projects.

Grants-In-Aid (organizations) : Maximum request, \$50,000

General operating support for DC-based arts and humanities nonprofits

Individual Artist Grants (individuals): Maximum request, \$5,000

Supports projects closely related to the development of an individual artist's professional career. The primary focus of the applicant's project must be Creating Art, Presenting Art or Professional Development.

UPSTART (organizations): Maximum request: \$100,000

Intensive capacity building program for DC-based arts and humanities nonprofits

PABC (organizations and individuals): Maximum request, \$100,000 (organizations), \$50,000 (individuals)

Offers funds to eligible artists and nonprofit organizations for the creation and installation of permanent public art projects with a life span of at least five (5) years.

Cultural Facilities Grant Program (organizations): Maximum request, \$100,000

One-time capital funding support in the form of matching grants to help defray costs related to the improvement, expansion and rehabilitation of existing buildings owned or leased by nonprofit cultural institutions.

The **DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities** provides grants, professional opportunities, education enrichment, and other programs and services to individuals and nonprofit organizations in all communities within the District of Columbia.

The Arts Commission is supported primarily by District government funds and in part by the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

###